

Biggs House
912 Fifth Avenue
Columbus
Muscogee County
Georgia

HABS No. GA-2292

HABS
GA
108-COLM,
34-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Southeast Region
Department of the Interior
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

HABS
GA
108-COL
34-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

BIGGS HOUSE

HABS No. GA-2292

Location: 912 Fifth Avenue
Columbus, Muscogee County, Georgia

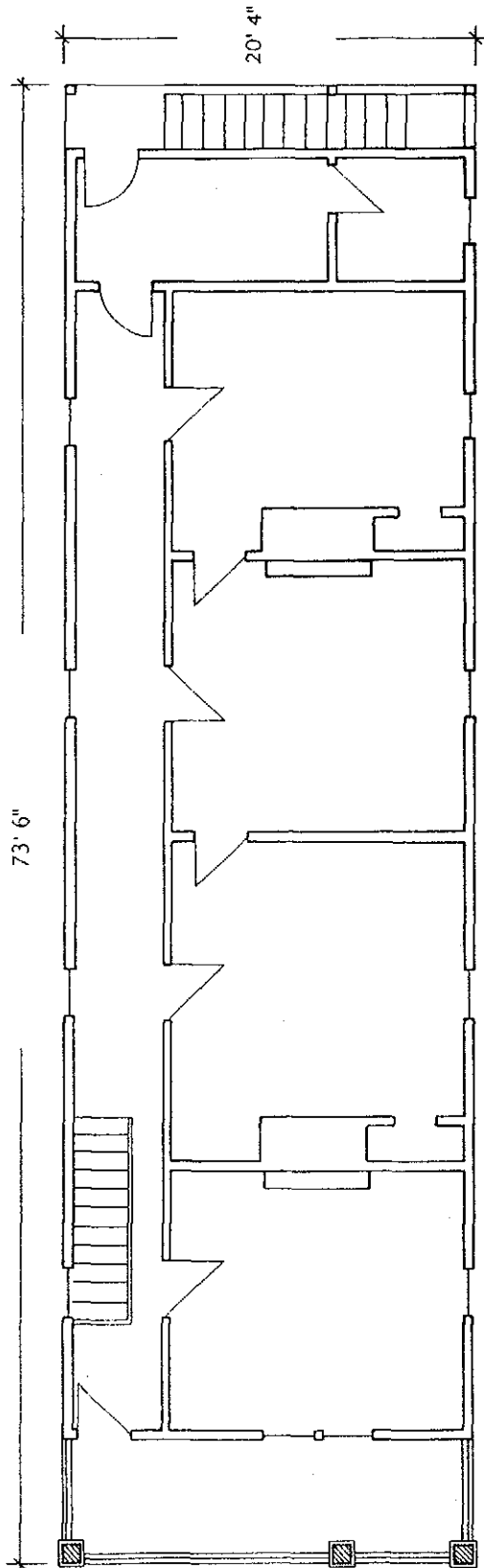
Significance: This house is significant as one of three adjacent, shotgun-style, two-story houses built around 1929. This was one of the first houses on the block to be built by a black.

Description: Side hall construction on both floors. Originally built as a duplex, with a family on each floor, later modified to a living room, dining room, kitchen downstairs, and three bedrooms upstairs. This house was originally identical to two other shotguns to the north.

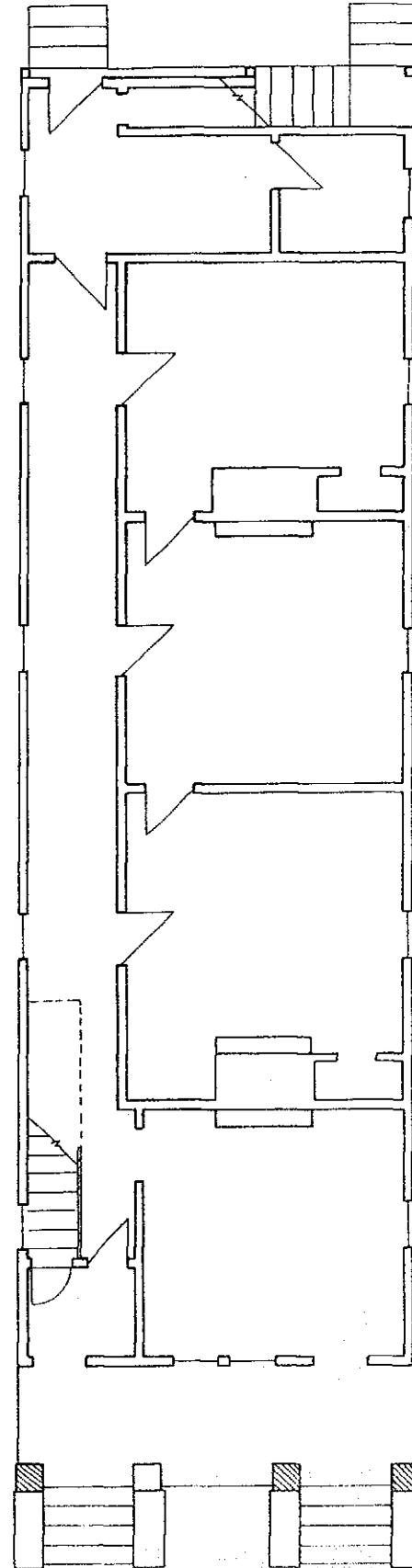
History: This was one of three houses built about 1929 by Ethel Spencer, the daughter of William Henry Spencer, the head of Columbus' black schools, and Richard Pierce, a speculator. The house was supposedly patterned on side-hall houses Ethel Spencer had seen in New Orleans. The house was given to Alphonso Biggs in 1981, at the time of Ethel Spencer's death.

Sources: Georgia Architectural and Historic Properties Survey-Inventory Form No. M-110. City Tax Maps; City Directories; Muscogee County deed records; Sanborn Insurance Maps; informant Alphonso Biggs.

Historian: John S. Lupold, Southeastern Archeological Services, Inc., April 15, 1994.



912 FIFTH AVENUE - SECOND FLOOR



912 FIFTH AVENUE - FIRST FLOOR

